

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An aqueous dispersion ~~for nail enamel~~, comprising a copolymer (E) having a weight-average molecular weight, as determined by gel-permeation chromatography, of 10,000 or more and 40,000 or less as polystyrene, the copolymer (E) is ~~obtainable~~ obtained by polymerizing a total of 100 wt parts of a monomer (A) selected from the group consisting of tert-butyl (meth)acrylate, cyclohexyl (meth)acrylate and benzyl (meth)acrylate and a radical-polymerization unsaturated monomer (B) other than the monomer (A) in an aqueous medium in the presence of 0.1 to 10.0 wt parts of a mercaptopropionic acid derivative (C) represented by the following General Formula (1):

General Formula (1)  $(\text{HS}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COO})_n-\text{R}$

wherein, n is an integer of 1 to 4; and R represents an alkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms or an alkoxyalkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms when n is 1 and an n-valent organic residue when n is 2 to 4.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion ~~for nail enamel~~ according to Claim 1, which is ~~obtainable~~ obtained by emulsion polymerization by using an anionic emulsifier (F) having one or more unsaturated radical-polymerization groups.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion ~~for nail enamel~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the monomer (A) is contained in an amount of 1 to 50 wt % with respect to a total of 100 wt % of the monomer (A) and the radical-polymerization unsaturated monomer (B) other than the monomer (A).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion ~~for nail enamel~~ according to ~~any one of~~ Claim 1, wherein the glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>) of the copolymer (E) is 50 to 80°C.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion ~~for nail enamel~~ according to ~~any one of~~ Claim 1, wherein the mercaptopropionic acid derivative (C) is octyl mercaptopropionate.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The aqueous dispersion ~~for nail-enamel~~ according to ~~any one of~~ Claim 1, wherein the average particle diameter of the copolymer (E) is 30 to 100 nm.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method of producing an aqueous dispersion ~~for nail enamel~~ comprising a copolymer (E) having a weight-average molecular weight, as determined by gel-permeation chromatography, of 10,000 or more and 40,000 or less as polystyrene, which comprises: polymerizing a total of 100 wt parts of a monomer (A) selected from the group consisting of tert-butyl (meth)acrylate, cyclohexyl (meth)acrylate and benzyl (meth)acrylate and a radical-polymerization unsaturated monomer (B) other than the monomer (A) in an aqueous medium in the presence of 0.1 to 10.0 wt parts of a mercaptopropionic acid derivative (C) represented by the following General Formula (1):

General Formula (1)  $(\text{HS}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COO})_n-\text{R}$ ,

wherein R represents an alkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms or an alkoxyalkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms when n is 1 and an n-valent organic residue when n is 2 to 4.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): An aqueous ~~nail-enamel~~ composition, comprising a copolymer (E) in an amount of 10 to 60 wt %,

wherein the copolymer (E) has a weight-average molecular weight of 10,000 or more and 40,000 or less as polystyrene, the copolymer (E) is ~~obtainable~~ obtained by polymerizing a total of 100 wt parts of a ~~monomer~~ monomer (A) selected from the group consisting of tert-butyl (meth)acrylate, cyclohexyl (meth)acrylate and benzyl (meth)acrylate and a radical-polymerization unsaturated monomer (B) other than the monomer (A) in an aqueous medium in the presence of 0.1 to 10.0 wt parts of a mercaptopropionic acid derivative (C) represented by the following General Formula (1):

General Formula (1)  $(\text{HS}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{COO})_n-\text{R}$

wherein, n is an integer of 1 to 4; and R represents an alkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms or an alkoxyalkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms when n is 1 and an n-valent organic residue when n is 2 to 4.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The aqueous ~~nail-enamel~~ composition according to Claim 8, further comprising a lower alcohol having a boiling point of lower than 100°C in an amount of 0.5 to 15 wt %.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): An aqueous dispersion ~~for nail-enamel~~, comprising a copolymer (E) dispersed in an aqueous medium, the copolymer (E) having a weight-average molecular weight of 10,000 or more and 40,000 or less, formed from a monomer (A) selected from the group consisting of tert-butyl (meth)acrylate, cyclohexyl (meth)acrylate and benzyl (meth)acrylate and a radical-polymerization unsaturated monomer (B) other than the monomer (A) as the constituent units, and having a mercaptopropionic acid derivative represented by the following Formula (I) at the terminal thereof:

General Formula (1)  $(\text{HS-CH}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-COO})_n\text{-R}$ ,

wherein R represents an alkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms or an alkoxyalkyl group having 4 or more carbon atoms when n is 1 and an n-valent organic residue when n is 2 to 4.

Claim 11 (New): A nail polish comprising the aqueous dispersion of claim 1 and at least one of a crosslinking agent, a filming aid, a plasticizer, a viscosity adjustor and a colorant.

Claim 12 (New): The nail polish according to claim 11, which is obtained by emulsion polymerization by using an anionic emulsifier (F) having one or more unsaturated radical-polymerization groups.

Claim 13 (New): The nail polish according to claim 11, wherein the monomer (A) is contained in an amount of 1 to 50 wt % with respect to a total of 100 wt % of the monomer (A) and the radical-polymerization unsaturated monomer (B) other than the monomer (A).

Claim 14 (New): The nail polish according to claim 11, wherein the glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>) of the copolymer (E) is 50 to 80°C.

Claim 15 (New): The nail polish according to claim 11, wherein the mercaptopropionic acid derivative (C) is octyl mercaptopropionate.

Claim 16 (New): The nail polish according to claim 11, wherein the average particle diameter of the copolymer (E) is 30 to 100 nm.

Claim 17 (New): A method of producing a nail polish according to claim 7.

Claim 18 (New): A nail polish comprising the aqueous dispersion of claim 8 and at least one of a crosslinking agent, a filming aid, a plasticizer, a viscosity adjustor and a colorant.

Claim 19 (New): The nail polish according to claim 18, further comprising a lower alcohol having a boiling point of lower than 100°C in an amount of 0.5 to 15 wt %.

Claim 20 (New): A nail polish comprising the aqueous dispersion of claim 10 and at least one of a crosslinking agent, a filming aid, a plasticizer, a viscosity adjustor and a colorant.